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JGJ

Mail Stop Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 24857

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mueller, et al. Group Art Unit: 1774

Serial No.: 10/014,796 Examiner: Jill M. Gray

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: **SUTURE MATERIAL FOR SURGERY, PROCESSES FOR ITS PRODUCTION AND THE USE THEREOF**

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2004. The three month shortened statutory period set for response expired June 18, 2004. Accordingly, a Petition for One-Month Extension of Time is attached hereto extending the period for reply to July 18, 2004, which is a Sunday. The Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account 14-0112 for the extension of time fee due.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objection and rejections and allow all claims pending in this application.

Please amend the identified application, as follows: